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Bail Definitions

Bail Bond – The obligation, or writing, entered into by the defendant and/or sureties with the court to procure the release of defendant pending court proceedings.

Bail Bondsman – A person authorized to execute bail bonds with the court.

Bail Forfeiture – A court order for seizure of the security posted for the release of the defendant.

Bail Piece – A document initiated by the surety and approved by the court authorizing the surety to apprehend and bring the defendant before the court. Upon court approval, surety may be removed and reimbursed any bail money deposited for defendant.

Cash Bail (Good Bail) – Entire dollar amount of bail is required for release of defendant.

Nominal Bail – A relatively small fee such as one dollar.

Percentage Bail – 10% of bail set by judge is required to be posted to secure the release of the defendant.

ROR Bail – "Release on one's own Recognizance", without payment of collateral or security.

Surety – A person or company (Corporate Surety) bound for the payment of a sum of money for the performance of some duty (appear for court hearings) or promise.